GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:25
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2016
Use of Ethanol
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Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of ethanol put to use in the chemical industry during the last three years;

(b) whether the Ministry has studied the likely impact of the blending of ethanol with petrol made mandatory, on the chemical industry per se and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has expressed its reservations over the mandatory use of ethanol blended petrol in the country; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a) The quantum of ethanol, put to use in the chemical industry during the last three years, as per the industry estimates, is as follows:

Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Quantum (crore litres)	84	84	87

(b) The Department has not conducted any formal study on the likely impact of making mandatory the blending of ethanol with petrol on the chemical industry.

(c&d) Ethanol is an important chemical finding use in the manufacture of a number of major commercial chemicals such as Acetic Acid, Ethyl Acetate, Mono Ethylene Glycol (MEG)-Polyester (PET) resin, polyester fibre/ yarn etc. Ethanol is also used

as a solvent and purification agent in bulk drugs, pharmaceuticals and as a reagent in laboratories. Ethanol is very important for the growth of the chemical industry as well to realize the objectives of the Make in India Programme. Further, the successful implementation of the EBP Programme also depends on sufficient availability of Ethanol.

In order to ease the availability of ethanol for various sectors, the Department has recommended measures for enhanced production of ethanol by increasing the production of sugarcane through adoption of better practices such as soil health care, pedigree plant material and micro irrigation with fertigation etc.